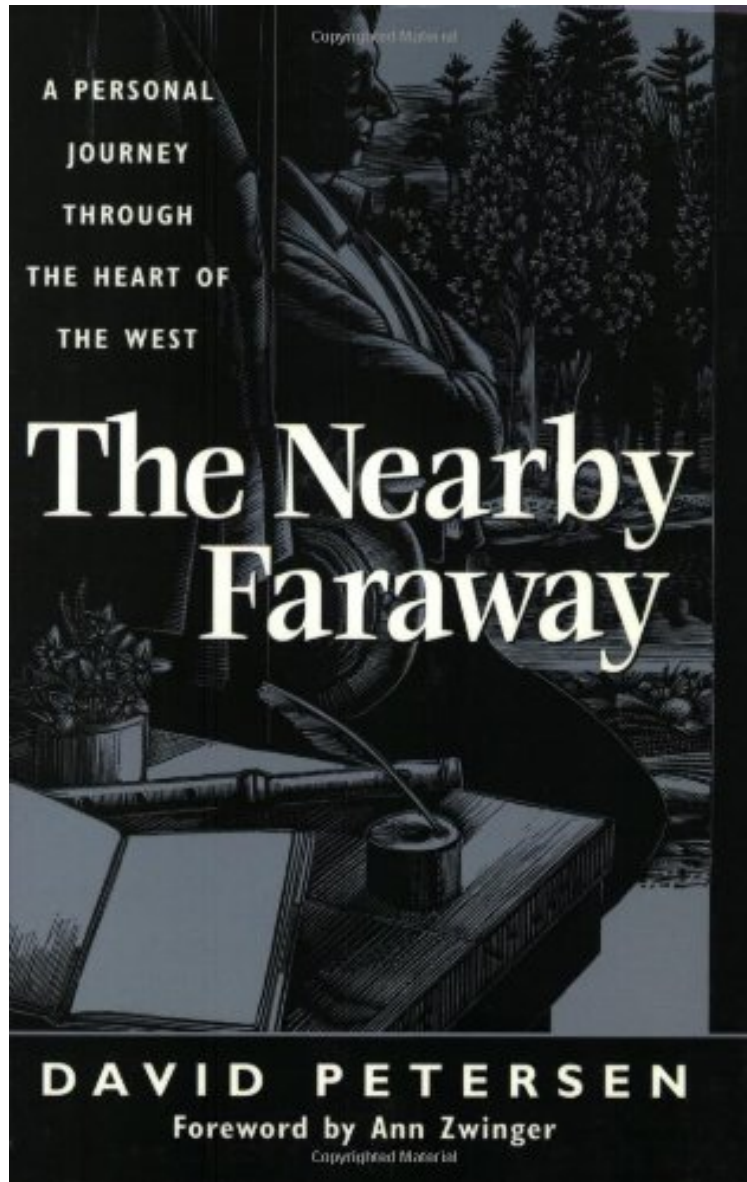


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The Nearby Faraway: A Personal Journey Through the Heart of the West

David Petersen

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David Petersen : The Nearby Faraway: A Personal Journey Through the Heart of the West before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Nearby Faraway: A Personal Journey Through the Heart of the West:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Stories that stick with you...By Pat in NHThis is a wonderful book of "Short Stories" that the publisher is calling Essays. Each story takes you (me) on an adventure thru the American wilderness, being Colorado, Montana, the 4-corners area, and other parts of our country that have a history of being wild and free.Dave Petersen takes you on a dream-like adventure that lets you explore these areas thru his thoughts, his eyes. One or two stories speak of Ed Abbey, and for those of us who miss him, it is wonderful to find a writer who honors him in this way. I have picked this book out of my shelves on numerous occasions to revisit a particular story, and find myself re-reading the entire book again and again. Can't recommend this book enough!4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Some 3 star essays, some 5 star essaysBy pullrichThis book is a collection of essays, some may be familiar to the readers of Backpacker magazine. Petersen writes about places in the West and the people that love those places. Many of the essays read like travelogues, for better or worse. Some of his essays bring you right next to the campfire, sipping whiskey at night or strong coffee in the morning, sleeping under the stars awash in desert incense. Perfection.Other essays weren't as moving (I'm thinking of the pacific northwest essays) and read rather flat. Another gripe: Peculiar analogies pop up in every second essay or two, e.g., elk bugling being described as the equivalent to "Yo momma, sucker!", a feeding hawk is termed a "feathered dracula", an adobe doorpost is as thick as a bodybuilders bicep, and finally, views are sometimes described as "million dollar" or "billion buck" rather than *really* described.Still, this book should be read by those who like to read about outdoor activity, especially those with an interest in the west. Loads of interesting anecdotes about Ed Abby and crew. Excellent ranting versus development and threats to the environment.4 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Tepid essays from Abbey wanna-beBy A CustomerA collection of essays - part nature writing, part travelogue. While the intent of the writer is admirable, you can shelve this collection with other "friends of Ed"; that is Ed Abbey, the master of this genre. Name dropping appears to be the focus of many of the essays.As far as the travel essays, this area has been covered better by others, though the essay on the relatively unknown Owyhee country was well done.Another note of irritation is Peterson's continuous railing of "urban refugees" sticking "a dagger in the heart of the wilderness". Yes, we would all love to be the only ones hiking up our favorite trail or to have a lonesome cabin at the end of a dirt road, but Peterson doesn't seem interested in any sharing of the wilderness.

earth writers, "The Nearby Faraway" reads like an abridged autobiography of the writer's life and travels (both geographical and spiritual). A dedicated naturalist and writer's writer, David Petersen spends a lot of time outdoors in the Rocky Mountain West. His most recent titles include "Ghost Grizzlies" and "A Hunter's Heart".

About the AuthorDavid Petersen is an experienced outdoorsman and the author of several books and many articles about the natural history of the American West. His most recent books include "Ghost Grizzlies" and "A Hunters Heart." He lives near Durango, Colorado.